

Medi-Cal Program Guide Letter #608

July 23,2007

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| Subject | Clarification to the Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)/Entrant Medical Assistance (EMA) Procedures |
| Effective Date | Upon receipt |
| Reference | MEM Letter 285 ACWDL 06-15 |
| Purpose | <p>The purpose of this letter is to provide staff with the following clarifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refugees applying for RMA/EMA benefits are not required to provide a Social Security Number (SSN).• Individuals who are identified as a Refugee, an Asylee, a Victim of Severe Form of Trafficking, or Cuban/Haitian Entrant are exempt from sponsored alien regulations.• A referral to Healthy Families (HF) shall be completed for Refugee children, who appear to be eligible for HF and whose parent(s) have provided consent. |
| Background | RMA and EMA are forms of humanitarian resettlement assistance that enables refugees' access to medical care. Revisions to the RMA/EMA procedures are included in this letter to reflect recent clarifications in policy regarding referral of refugee children to HF, SSN requirement and sponsored alien regulations. |
| Social Security Number Exemption | A refugee applying for RMA/EMA benefits is not required to obtain, provide or disclose his/her SSN. Therefore, RMA/EMA applicants or beneficiaries shall not be denied, delayed, or discontinued from receiving RMA/EMA because of failure to provide SSN. |
| Sponsored Alien Regulations Exemption | Individuals who are identified as a Refugee, an Asylee, a Victim of a Severe Form of Trafficking, or a Cuban/Haitian Entrant are not subject to sponsored alien regulations. |

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Healthy Families Referral Requirement

As a condition of eligibility to the RMA/EMA program, refugee children must be determined ineligible to zero share-of-cost (SOC) Medi-Cal or HF. A HF referral shall be completed for Refugee children who have been determined ineligible to zero SOC Medi-Cal but appear to be potentially eligible for HF and whose parent(s) have provided consent.

Until it is determined that the child will receive HF coverage, the child may receive RMA/EMA with no SOC

CalWIN

Staff are reminded to contact the CalWIN Help Desk to open a Service Request (SR) for any cases where the eligibility determination shown in CalWIN conflicts with the regulations detailed in this letter.

Automation Impact

None

Forms Impact

None

Quality Assurance Impact

Effective with September 2007 review month, Quality Assurance will cite the appropriate error on any case that does not comply with the requirements outlined in this letter.

Summary of Changes

| Article | Changes |
|----------------------|--|
| Article 4 Section 7 | Included exemption of SSN requirement for refugees under the RMA/EMA program. |
| Article 4 Section 11 | |
| Article 5 Section 8 | Clarified that HF referral shall be completed for refugee children who appear eligible to HF and whose parent(s) have consented. |
| Article 5 Section 8 | |
| | Clarified that refugees are not subject to sponsored alien regulations. |

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**Filing
Instruction**

| Step | Action |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Remove | Article 4, Section 7, Pages 21-22 |
| | Article 4, Section 11, Pages 1-2 |
| | Article 5, Section 8, Pages 1-2 |
| | Article 5, Section 8, Pages 5-6 |
| Replace | Article 4, Section 7, Pages 21-22 |
| | Article 4, Section 11, Pages 1-2 |
| | Article 5, Section 8, Pages 1-2 |
| | Article 5, Section 8, Pages 5-6 |

**Manager
Approval**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

DANN CRAWFORD, ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Medi-Cal, General Relief and CAPI Program Administration
Strategic Planning and Operational Support

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